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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/627,878	07/28/2003	Yoshihiko Minatani	116230	3608
25944	7590	11/06/2006	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			NGUYEN, DANNY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2836	

DATE MAILED: 11/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/627,878

Applicant(s)

MINATANI, YOSHIHIKO

Examiner

Danny Nguyen

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 June 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/19/06.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed 6/1/2006 with respect to the amended claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Objections***

2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: claim 1, line 9, "an over-voltage" should be "the over-voltage". Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shioya et al (USPN 5,862,044).

Regarding claims 1, 5, 7, 8, Shioya discloses a power supply device (fig. 1) for driving which comprises a switching control circuit (30) on a primary side (n1) of a transformer (T1), which switches a switching element (Q1) for a power source, an output voltage generation portion on a secondary side (n2) of the transformer, which generates a predetermined output voltage in accordance with the switching of the switching element for the power source, and a fail detection circuit (PC), wherein the output voltage generation portion includes an over-voltage detection circuit (the feed back and regulate circuit 20 performs the same function as an over-voltage detection

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circuit) that detects an over-voltage, the fail detection circuit that generates a voltage when the over-voltage detection circuit detects an over-voltage, the fail detection circuit including a photo diode and a photo transistor constituting a photo coupler, and the switching control circuit includes an output voltage suppression processing unit (U2, col. 3, lines 2-3) that suppresses an increase in the output voltage when the over-voltage is detected (col. 4, lines 21-35, col. 5, 6, lines 57-3):

Regarding claims 3, 4, Shioya discloses the switching control circuit (30) includes a duty control portion (such as a PWM circuit U2) that switches the switching element (Q1) for the power source according to a predetermined duty signal and the output voltage suppression processing unit is provided in the duty control portion and executes such that the duty ration of the duty signal becomes smaller when the overvoltage is detected (figure 2D) (col. 4, lines 21-35, col. 5, 6, lines 57-3).

4. Claims 1, 2, 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Suzuki (USPN 4,868,729).

Regarding claims 1, 6, Suzuki discloses a power supply device (figures 23, 24, 25, 28) for driving which comprises a switching control circuit (such as Tr52, Tr53, R57, C54) on a primary side (LW-1) of a transformer (T51), which switches a switching element (Tr51) for a power source, an output voltage generation portion on a secondary side of the transformer, which generates a predetermined output voltage in accordance with the switching of the switching element for the power source, and a fail detection circuit (PC1), wherein the output voltage generation portion includes an over-voltage

detection circuit (R64, R65, OA1) that detects an over-voltage, the fail detection circuit that generates a voltage when the over-voltage detection circuit detects an over-voltage, the fail detection circuit including a photo diode and a photo transistor constituting a photo coupler, and the switching control circuit includes an output voltage suppression processing unit that suppresses an increase in the output voltage when the over-voltage is detected (col. 21, lines 18-67).

Regarding claims 2, Suzuki discloses a plurality of phase power supply circuit (such as 66-1, 66-2, fig. 23) that generate a plurality of output voltages, and the over-voltage detection circuit is provided in each phase supply circuit (e.g. fig. 29).

### ***Conclusion***

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Danny Nguyen whose telephone number is (571)-272-2054. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon to Fri 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571)-272-2058. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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10/20/2006

  
**BRIAN SIRCUS**  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800